

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 141956
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSC-05 COME-00 OES-07 SP-02 DLOS-09
SS-15 L-03 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01
CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02
DOE-15 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 IO-13
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 ICA-11
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DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:MJWILKINSON:EM
APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:SMCCALL
NSC/OSTP:BHUBERMAN
NSC/USSR:KING
NOAA:RFRANK
OES/OFA:HANDERSEN
S/P:HBLANEY
OES/APT/SEP:RMORRIS
D/LOS:DBLUMBERG
S/MS:CKAMMAN

-----079722 060119Z /62

P 060018Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 141956

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TGEN, TOCY, PLOS, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR WORLD OCEANS BILATERAL: RENEWAL, JCM
AND MSR

REFS: A) MOSCOW 11733, B) STATE 135579

1. ON BASIS OF US WORLD OCEANS AGREEMENT COMMITTEE DISCUS-
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 141956

SIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON,
DECISION AS BEEN MADE TO PROPOSE TO SOVIETS THAT US-USSR
WORLD OCEANS AGREEMENT BE EXTENDED ON AN INTERIM BASIS FOR
180 DAYS. EFFECT WILL BE TO DEFER JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING
AND FINAL DECISION ON RENEWAL UNTIL AFTER LOS SESSION
MEETINGS IN NEW YORK AUGUST 21 TO SEPTEMBER 15, 1978. THIS
MESSAGS PROVIDES BACKGROUND FOR EMBASSY AND INSTRUCTIONS TO

IMPLEMENT US DECISION.

2. AS EMBASSY AWARE, INTERAGENCY DELIBERATIONS PRIOR TO THE GENEVA LOS SESSION LED TO APPROVAL OF A THREE-YEAR RENEWAL WITH US PARTICIPATION KEYED TO IMPROVED SOVIET PERFORMANCE AND TO THE SOVIET POSITION ON MARINE SCIENCE RESEARCH (MSR) IN LOS. FINAL NOTIFICATION WAS TO BE GIVEN TO THE SOVIETS ONLY AFTER CONCLUSION OF GENEVA LOS SESSION (AND AFTER BILATERAL TALKS ON PERFORMANCE). MSR ISSUE WAS

NOT RESOLVED AT GENEVA SESSION, WHICH IS TO BE RESUMED IN AUGUST IN NEW YORK.

3. IN POT-GENEVA REVIEW OF MSR DEVELOPMENTS, AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON HAS NOTED:

--THE SOVIETS HOLD THE KEY TO MSR ISSUE RESOLUTION, BECAUSE OF BOTH THEIR INFLUENCE IN GENERAL, AND THEIR SPECIFIC ABILITY TO DOMINATE THE BULGARIAN CHAIRMAN (YANKOV) OF THE KEY COMMITTEE CONCERNED;

--AT HIS LAST MEETING WITH SOVIET LOS DELEGATION LEADER KOZYREV, LATTER SHOWED UNCHARACTERISTIC WILLINGNESS TO DEAL ON MSR ISSUE, FROM WHICH WE CAN INFER THAT OUR PRESURE IS BEING TAKEN SERIOUSLY; AND

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PAGE 03 STATE 141956

--THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD NOT FIND US PROPOSALS SO ONEROUS IF IMPLICATIONS, PARTICULARLY LACK OF ANY THREAT TO SOVIET NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS, CAN BE CLARIFIED.

4. AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON CONCLUDED IT WILL BE VERY USEFUL TO MAINTAIN PRESSURE OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT UNCERTAINTY BY MEANS OF AN INTERIM EXTENSION OF AGREEMENT. (AT THE SAME TIME, HE NOTED, US PROPOSALS ON MSR FOR NEW YORK SESSION WILL BE MORE FAR-REACHING THAN THOSE TABLED AT GENEVA.)

5. FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON, NOAA ADMINISTRATOR FRANK CHAIRED MAY 26 MEETING OF US WORLD OCEANS AGREEMENT COMMITTEE, AT WHICH CONSENSUS WAS REACHED TO SUPPORT AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON'S PROPOSAL. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ALSO BROUGHT OUT FOLLOWING POINTS:

--LEVERAGE EXERTED BY THREAT OF CANCELLING BILATERAL AGREEMENT IS PROBABLY MARGINAL;

--EFFORT TO PRESSURE SOVIETS ON MSR THROUGH BILATERAL

SHOULD BE PARALLELED BY ALL OTHER APPROPRIATE MEANS (US
LOS DELEGATION AND DEPARTMENT ARE CONSIDERING STEPS TO DO
SO; FRANK WILL BE CONTACTING DR. PRESS IN CONNECTION WITH
POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP AT S&T JOINT COMMISSION JULY MEETING IN
MOSCOW), AND

--SINCE ONE LIKELY OUTCOME OF NEW YORK LOS SESSION IS CON-
-INUING UNCERTAINTY ON MSR ISSUE, COMMITTEE WOULD EXPECT
THAT THREE-YEAR RENEWAL CAN BE EFFECTED WITHOUT GETTING

INTO SERIES OF FURTHER DELAYS, ASSUMING ANY NEW POLITICAL
DEVELOPMENTS DO NOT INTERVENE.

6. INTEGRAL PART OF US INTERIM EXTENSION STRATEGY IS TO
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PAGE 04 STATE 141956

DEFER JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING UNTIL AFTER SEPTEMBER 15.
DISCUSSIONS WITH AGREEMENT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY METALNIKOV
COULD COVER SOME USEFUL POINTS IN MEANTIME, BUT THERE
WOULD BE NO REPEAT NO RENEWAL COMMITMENTS AND WE ARE
HAPPY TO LEAVE ONUS ON HIM FOR DEFERRING CONSULTATIONS
IF HE HOLDS TO LINE GIVEN REF A.

7. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO PASS FOLLOWING LETTER FROM
FRANK TO SIDORENKO IN RESPONSE TO LATTER'S MESSAGE
(REF B):

DEAR ACADEMICIAN SIDORENKO:

I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR CABLE OF MAY 23 SUGGESTING THE POS-
SIBILITY OF A JULY MEETING OF THE US-USSR COMMITTEE ON
COOPERATION IN STUDIES OF THE WORLD OCEAN. WE HAVE ALSO
BEEN INFORMED OF RELATED SOVIET COMMENTS MADE THE SAME
DAY BY DR. METALNIKOV TO THE COUNSELOR FOR SCIENTIFIC AND
TECHNICAL AFFAIRS OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN MOSCOW.

TO GIVE FULL CONSIDERATION TO THE ISSUES IN ADVANCE OF A
JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING, I SUGGEST WE ALLOW MORE TIME
BEFORE CONVENING. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, THE LAST WEEK
OF SEPTEMBER 1978 MIGHT BE SET ASIDE ON PARTICIPANTS'
CALENDARS AS A POSSIBLE TIME FOR THE FOURTH SESSION, SUB-
JECT TO LATER CONFIRMATION.

THE US-USSR AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN STUDIES OF THE
WORLD OCEAN STANDS TO EXPIRE BY JUNE 19, 1978, BEFORE ANY
MEETING COULD TAKE PLACE. I SUGGEST THAT THE TWO SIDES
NOW EXTEND THE AGREEMENT FOR A LIMITED PERIOD (E.G. 180
DAYS) TO CARRY THE VALIDITY OF THE CURRENT TEXT FORWARD
UNTIL WE CAN MEET AND DISCUSS THE SUBJECT MORE THOROUGHLY.
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PAGE 05 STATE 141956

IF YOU FIND THIS AGREEABLE IN PRINCIPLE, OUR EMBASSY IN MOSCOW WILL BE AUTHORIZED TO PURSUE FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON DETAILS WITH SOVIET REPRESENTATIVES.

SINCERELY YOURS,

RICHARD A. FRANK, ADMINISTRATOR, NOAA
CHAIRMAN, U.S. SIDE
US-USSR WORLD OCEAN AGREEMENT

8. WHEN DELIVERING LETTER, EMBASSY SHOULD ORALLY CONVEY FOLLOWING POINTS:

--US WAS DISAPPOINTED THAT MSR ISSUES WERE NOT RESOLVED IN GENEVA AND CONTINUES TO FIND THESE ISSUES GERMANE TO RENEWAL OF AN OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH BILATERAL.

--WE NOTE THAT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN US AND SOVIET LOS DELEGATIONS IN GENEVA WERE NOT TOTALLY NEGATIVE AND WE HOPE THAT FULLER SOVIET UNDERSTANDING OF MSR IMPLICATIONS CAN LEAD TO A BASIS FOR GREATER COMMONALITY OF ACTION AT THE NEW YORK SESSION. WE ARE DEVELOPING A SET OF NEW PROPOSALS (DIFFERENT FROM THOSE THE US MADE AT GENEVA) AND MAY SEEK INTERSESSIONAL CONSULTATION.

--INTERIM EXTENSION NOTED IN FRANK LETTER WOULD BE FOR 180 DAYS WHICH COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED BY STRAIGHTFORWARD EXCHANGE OF DIPLOMATIC NOTES. IF SOVIET SIDE WILL NOMINATE A POINT OF CONTACT, EMBASSY WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS DETAILS IN NEAR FUTURE.

--AS FOR METALNIKOV TRIP, SITUATION HAS CHANGED SINCE HIS MAY 23 COMMENTS TO SCICOUNSELOR (REF B), ALTHOUGH HIS ULTIMATUM ON RENEWAL INTENTIONS REMAINS UNACCEPTABLE. IF HE WOULD WISH TO COME WITH KURASOV WEEK OF JUNE 19, MARTINEAU WOULD BE PREPARED TO RECEIVE HIM FOR DISCUSSION
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PAGE 06 STATE 141956

OF SUCH MATTERS AS REVIEW REPORTS AND OTHER JCM DOCUMENTATION ON A CONTINGENCY BASIS ONLY. SOME USEFUL APPOINTMENTS COULD BE ARRANGED FOR HIM WITH US LOS DELEGATION MEMBERS. HE CANNOT EXPECT COMMITMENTS ON MATTERS RELATED TO RENEWAL. THESE COMMENTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED RESPONSE TO HIS CABLE OF MAY 25 (REF B).

9. PLEASE REPORT SOVIET REACTIONS TO ABOVE PROPOSALS SOONEST.

10. ALTHOUGH MOOT AT THIS POINT, WE WOULD NOTE FOR EMBASSY'S BACKGROUND THAT THREE-YEAR RENEWAL TERM (DISCUSSED REF A IN COMPARISON TO TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT) WAS CHOSEN AS SHORTEST PRACTICABLE BECAUSE OF LONG LEAD TIME NEEDED FOR PLANNING, PEER REVIEW AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS TYPICALLY NECESSARY IN COMPLEX RESEARCH PROJECTS INVOLVED. TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT DOES NOT NORMALLY ENTAIL EXTENDED RESEARCH GRANT REVIEW PROCESS USED, FOR EXAMPLE, BY NSF. AS FINAL POINT FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION,

AT THE US COMMITTEE MEETING MAY 26, IT WAS NOTED THAT THE US SECRETARIAT IS DEVELOPING A MORE FORMAL SECURITY CLEARANCE PROCEDURE, TO BE IMPLEMENTED INTERNALLY IF AGREEMENT IS EVENTUALLY RENEWED.
VANCE

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